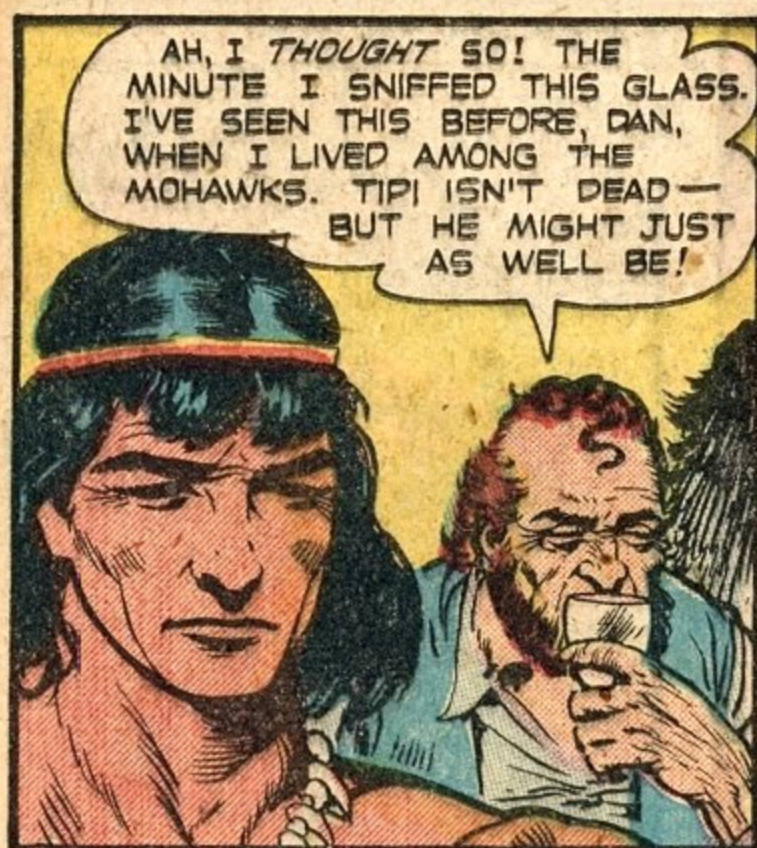
Dan Brand and Tipi

FRANK FRAZETTA

EVIL HITS A NEW HIGH IN THIS GRIPPING TALE OF THE BATTLE FOR LIFE IN THE BACKWOODS! A NEW DANGER—MORE SINISTER, MORE ELUSIVE AND MORE TERROR-PACKED THAN EVER BEFORE—THREATENS TO ENGULF DAN BRAND AND TIPI. AND WHEN THE DANGER STRIKES, TIPI IS **LOST TO THE LAND OF THE LIVING**—AND EVEN DAN ALMOST SUCCUMBS TO THE DREADED

"Sleep of Death"

LATER— IN A SETTLER HOME DOWN IN THE VALLEY...

AH, I *THOUGHT* SO! THE MINUTE I SNIFFED THIS GLASS. I'VE SEEN THIS BEFORE, DAN, WHEN I LIVED AMONG THE MOHAWKS. TIPI ISN'T DEAD-BUT HE MIGHT JUST AS WELL BE!

THE LONG TREK TO THE MOHAWK CAMP TAKES ALL NIGHT. AT MORNING, IN THE WIGWAM OF CHIEF RED FOOT...
YES, DAN BRAND— THIS IS TRULY THE DREAD SLEEP OF DEATH, FROM WHICH SO FEW RETURN. I WILL SEND FOR SAGAMAW, MY OWN MEDICINE MAN...PERHAPS HE KNOWS THE CURE!

WHAT? OUR LITTLE BROTHER TIPI? HOW TERRIBLE! WHAT EVIL RENEGADE OF A MOHAWK COULD HAVE DONE THIS?
SOMETHING HAS GONE WRONG... I MUST PLAY MY GAME CLEVERLY...!

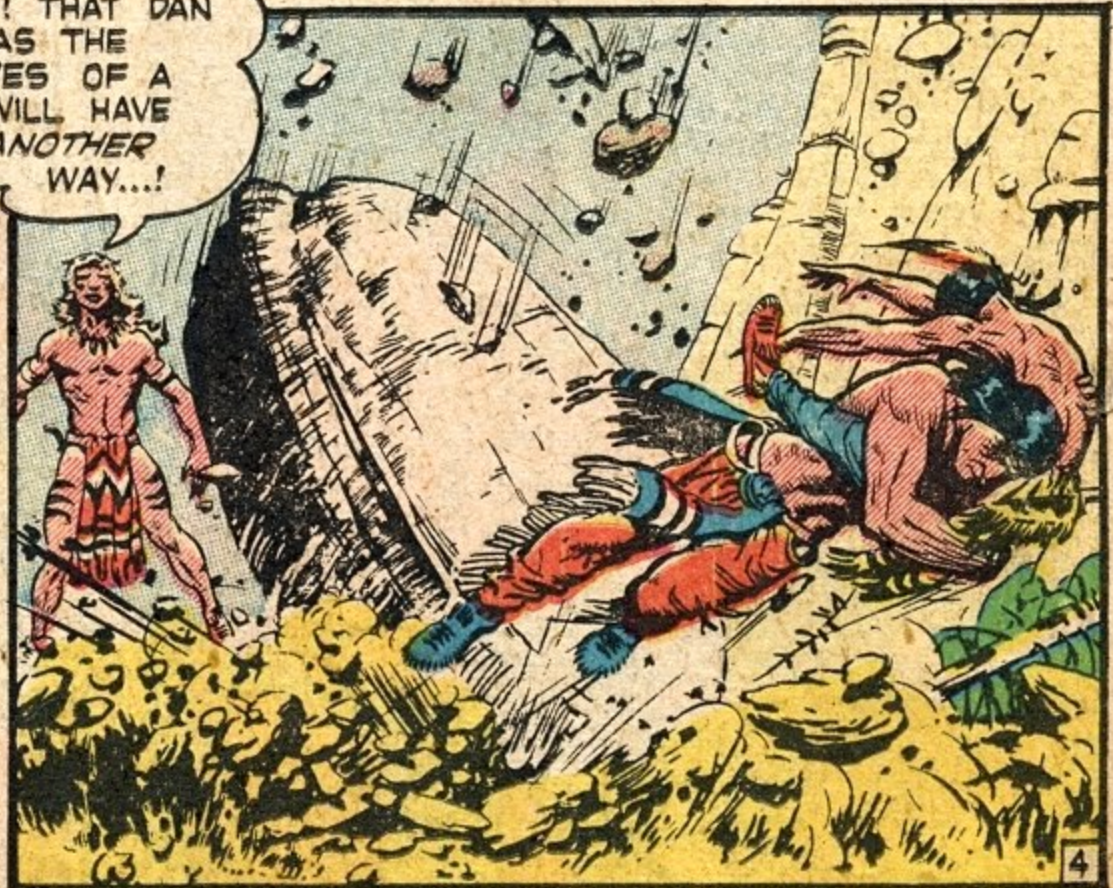
I DO NOT KNOW A CURE FOR THIS, DAN BRAND. BUT THERE IS A MEDICINE MAN IN ANOTHER MOHAWK TRIBE WHO DOES. IT IS A FULL DAY'S JOURNEY BY MOUNTAIN TRAILS...

THEN LEAD ME TO HIM—NOW!

MAY THE GOOD SPIRITS ATTEND YOUR FOOTSTEPS, BROTHER DAN BRAND.

LATER—ON THE TRAIL...
WE MUST WAIT FOR SAGAMAW'S SIGNAL...

THAT SUDDEN SHADOW...

THUNDER! THAT DAN BRAND HAS THE MANY LIVES OF A CAT! I WILL HAVE TO TRY ANOTHER WAY...!

WHAT A TERRIBLE ACCIDENT! ARE YOU BOTH SAFE?
LEAD ON, SAGAMAW —LEAD ON! IT IS A PITY THERE IS NOT THE TIME TO INVESTIGATE THIS "ACCIDENT"...!

I'M BEGINNING TO GET A STRANGE FEELING ABOUT THIS MEDICINE MAN GUIDE OF MINE... HAVE TO WATCH HIM EXTRA CLOSELY... AH, WHAT'S HE TRYING TO HIDE FROM ME? CAN THAT BE A SIGNAL?

IT IS!

TWANNNG!

QUICK—INTO THIS CAVE!
I KNOW THAT CAVE MUST BE A TRAP—BUT I'VE GOT TO GET TIPI UNDER COVER—AND I NEED TIME TO PLAN AND THINK!

THIS CAVE IS SMALL PROTECTION, SAGAMAW. ANYONE TRYING TO GO OUT OF THAT SMALL UNCONCEALED ENTRANCE WILL BE A PERFECT TARGET FOR THOSE WHO WAIT IN AMBUSH.
TRUE! VERY TRUE! COMING IN HERE WAS A MISTAKE.

THEN LET US QUENCH OUR THIRST BEFORE WE SIT DOWN TO PLAN ESCAPE. MY WATER IS FRESH, SAGAMAW.

A STRANGE TASTE, IS IT NOT, SAGAMAW? IN THAT FLASK IS THE SAME POTION THAT SENT TIPI INTO THE SLEEP OF DEATH!
NO! NO! NO!

I CONFESS! IT WAS I WHO POISONED HIM, WHO CONCOCTED THIS POTION. IT WAS YOU I TRIED TO KILL—THE BRITISH MADE ME DO IT! SAVE ME! FORGIVE ME! SAVE ME—I'LL TELL YOU THE CURE...!

THE CURE—IT IS A STRONG BROTH MADE FROM BIRCH BARK! USE IT ON ME... SAVE ME...PLEASE... PLEASE... AHHHHH...

BROTH MADE FROM BIRCH BARK! I MUST RUN THAT GAUNTLET OF ARROWS WAITING FOR ME OUTSIDE!

NOW! NOW— WHILE THEY RELOAD THEIR BOWS!

AAAA A-A-A!

DIE, DOG OF A WHITE MAN!
UGH... MY KNIFE...!

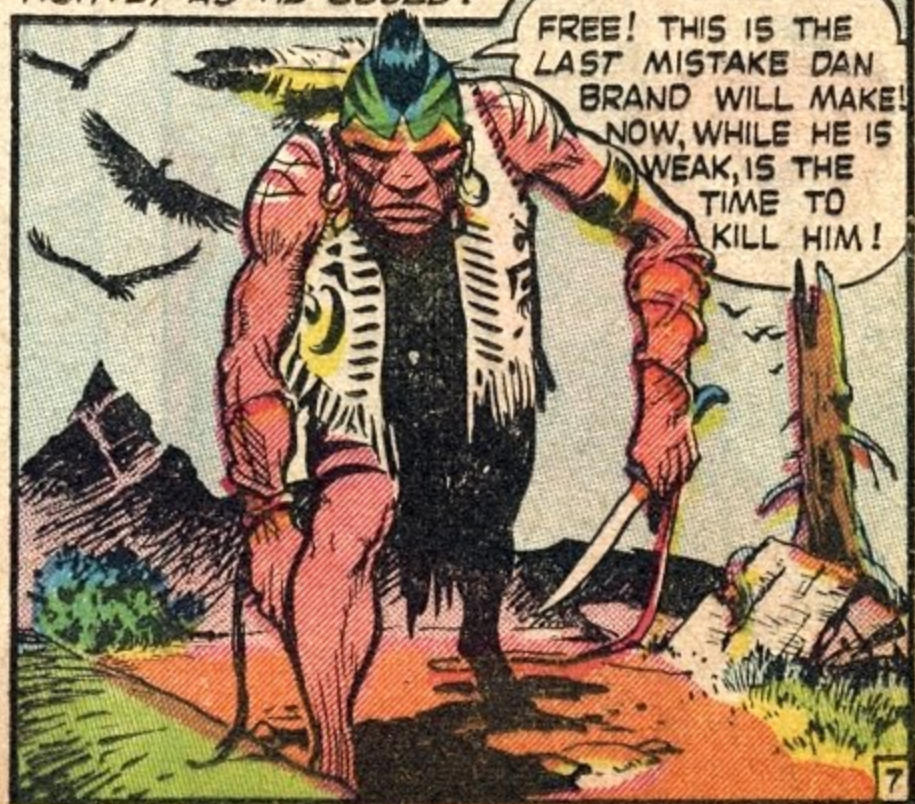
IF I DIE — YOU DIE WITH ME!
AH— AGHHHHH...!

GOT TO PULL OUT THIS ARROW — UGH! MUST TIE UP THESE ASSASSINS — MUST GET THAT BIRCH BARK...

I'M...GETTING WEAK. BUT THERE'S NO TIME TO TAKE CARE OF ME... GOT TO GET THIS BARK TO TIPI...

DAN MUSTERS HIS TREMENDOUS WILL — STAGGERS BACK TO THE CAVE, FINDS A HOLLOW STONE...
JUST A FEW MINUTES MORE... I'VE GOT TO STAY CONSCIOUS...GOT TO LAST THIS OUT...

I'VE GOT TO FORCE THIS THROUGH HIS TEETH... MAKE IT GO DOWN... TIPI... TIPI...

BUT, IN HIS HASTE AND WEAKNESS, DAN DID NOT TIE THE BONDS OF THE ASSASSINS AS TIGHTLY AS HE COULD!
FREE! THIS IS THE LAST MISTAKE DAN BRAND WILL MAKE! NOW, WHILE HE IS WEAK, IS THE TIME TO KILL HIM!

I THINK I GOT SOME OF IT DOWN... CAN'T STAY CONSCIOUS ANY MORE... PASSING OUT... TIPI... AHHHH...

I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED OR WHAT THIS MEANS — BUT I DO KNOW THAT I WANT THAT KNIFE!

ALL RIGHT, YOU, WHOEVER YOU ARE — PICK UP DAN BRAND AND START CARRYING HIM TO THE NEAREST MOHAWK CAMP — FAST!

A FEW DAYS LATER...
BANISHED FROM THE VILLAGE — A FITTING PUNISHMENT FOR SAGAMAW AND HIS ASSASSINS...
WE SHOULD NOT HAVE USED THE BIRCH BARK CURE ON HIM — BUT SHOULD HAVE LET HIM PERISH. I FEAR WE HAVE NOT SEEN THE LAST OF THIS EVIL MAN...
AMONG US, IT IS SAID: "THE QUALITY OF MERCY IS NOT STRAINED." IF SAGAMAW RETURNS WITH HIS EVIL WE WIL
REA TO MEET IT!